

Message Text

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72

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 EUR-25 IO-14 ACDA-19 TRSE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 INRE-00 CCO-00 DRC-01 EB-11 COME-00 SCEM-02

INT-08 TAR-02 /167 W

----- 067218

R 231406Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5335

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS BEIRUT 13434

DEPT PASS USINT CAIRO

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XF, SA, IR, US

SUBJECT: DECLARATIONS BY KING FEISAL AND SHAH RE ME CONFLICT

1. IN INTERVIEW PUBLISHED BY PRO-CAIRO BEIRUT DAILY AL ANWAR NOV 22, KING FEISAL REAFFIRMED SAUDI EMBARGO ON OIL SHIPMENTS TO US WOULD NOT BE LIFTED UNTIL COMPLETE ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM OCCUPIED TERRITORIES HAS TAKEN PLACE. SAID HE HAD BEGUN WARNING USG TWO YEARS AOG OF DAMAGE US POLICY WAS LIKELY TO HAVE ON US INTERESTS IN ARAB WORLD, BUT NOTED "IT WAS ALL IN VAIN". ASKED IF HE OPTIMISTIC OVER PRESENT PROSPECTS FOR ME SETTLEMENT, KING REPLIED: "EVERYTHING I HEAR SUGGESTS THEY (AMERICANS) DESIRE A SETTLEMENT. HOWEVER, I KNOW JEWS HAVE GREAT INFLUENCE IN US".

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KING ADDED: "ALL WE CAN DO IS WARN THEM (AMERICANS) OF DANGERS

OF CONTINUED ZIONIST INFLUENCE AND DEFINE OUR ATTITUDE CLEARLY AND FRANKLY. WE HAVE THROWN OUR FULL WEIGHT INTO LIBERATION BATTLE AND WILL NOT RETREAT UNTIL RESULTS ARE ACHIEVED. US KNOWS OUR POSITION CLEARLY AND PRECISELY".

2. ASKED TO DEFINE HIS ATTITUDE TOWARD JERUSALEM, FEISAL STATED, "WE CANNOT RELINQUISH ARAB CHARACTER OF JERUSALEM, CITY OF ISLAMIC AND CHRISTIAN HOLY PLACES. JEWS HAVE NO PLACE THERE.. ..WAILING WALL IS SIMPLY A PLACE WHERE THEY WEEP, BUT THEY HAVE NO HISTORICAL RIGHT TO IT". KING DENIED HAVING SENT SAUDI ENVOY TO VATICAN TO DISCUSS MOSLEM-CHRISTIAN COOPERATION RE JERUSALEM, NOTING THAT SAG CAN CONVEY ITS VIEWS TO HOLY SEE THROUGH "FRIENDS WHO HAVE CLOSE TIES WITH VATICAN". ASKED WHAT ARABS' MOST EFFECTIVE WEAPON AGAINST ISRAEL SGJUNYEISAL REPLIED "ARAB UNITY", SOMETHING WHICH HE SAID ZIONISM HAD NEVER HAD TO CONFRONT IN PAST. ADDED SAG ANXIOUS PRESERVE ARAB SOLIDARITY AND "COOPERATE IN MOBILIZING ALL ARAB RESOURCES TO MAXIMUM POSSIBLE EXTENT".

3. INDEPENDENT WEEKLY AL HAWADITH (NOV 22) CARRIED WIDE-RANGING INTERVIEW WITH SHAH, WHO QUOTED AS SAYING ARAB USE OF OIL AS WEAPON DURING OCTOBER WAR WAS "UNDERSTANDABLE". ADDED THAT EMBARGOS AND REDUCTIONS IN PRODUCTION SHOULD BE RECONSIDERED NOW THAT CEASEFIRE IN EFFECT AND SETTLEMENT EFFORTS UNDERWAY, AND STRONGLY WARNED ARABS AGAINST GIVING IMPRESSION THEY WANT WHOLE WORLD TO SUFFER. SAID GOI HAD ASSISTED ARAB WAR EFFORT BY PLACING "SOME PLANES AT SAUDI DISPOSAL" AND BY NOTIFYING IRAQI GOVT. IT HAD NOTHING TO FEAR FROM IRAN IF IT SENT TROOPS TO SYRIAN FRONT. SHAH ALSO

SAID HE TOLD KISSINGER IRAN WOULD NEVER ACCEPT NON-MOSLEM CONTROL OF ISLAMIC SITES IN JERUSALEM.
BUFFUM

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED CAIRO.

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